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## Italy Mobilizes War Fleet - Army Ready Too For A Swoop On Tripoli

Government Still Talks of Peaceful Negotiation With Turkey, but Feverish Preparations for Hostilities Go On -Only a Bluff, Says Constantinople. Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. ROME, Sept. 23.-

The intervention of Italy in Tripoli cannot possibly take place before the close of the negotiations between France and Germany in regard to Morocco. Meanwhile the Italian Government feels sure of the support of the Mediterranean Powers and is negotiating with the Porte in regard to the payment of an indemnity for the occupation of the province, with considerable hope of success. Nevertheless Italy is pushing on her preparations for active work as rapidly as possible.

The fleet, instead of returning to winter quarters after the autumn manuvres, is being held in south Italian and Sicilian ports. There are four squadrons in the fleet. The first is made up of four battleships, three cruisers, three destroyers, a mine ship and a scout. This squadron will escort forty transports carrying the army of occupation to Tripoli.

The second squadron consists of three battleships, four cruisers and a number of minor vessels. This is destined for Turkish waters. The third squadron, of three battleships and one cruiser, is intended for service in the Red Sea, while the fourth, under command of the Duke of the Abruzzi, and made up of two cruisers and a strong flotilla of destroyers, torpedo boats and submarines, will be held at Brindisi ready for emergencies. All these vessels are loading ammunition and provisioning.

The army of occupation will consist of twenty or thirty thousand men. Time expired men from Naples and Palermo. have been retained in the ranks.

Notwithstanding the evident preparations, the Government denies that there is to be an immediate expedition and says that action is taken only in case the negotiations with Turkey over Tripoli fail. The warlike preparations do not imply the immediate occupation of Tripoli. They are merely a precaution justified by the attitude of Turkey and the possibility of reprisals, when Italy is bound to protect her citizens' interests in Turkey. A peaceful occupation of Tripoli as the result of the Italo-Turkish understanding is not to be excluded.

The Tribune's Tripoli correspondent telegraphs that the exodus of Italians owing to the hostility and threatening attitude of Turks in Tripoli has begun. Forty-four Jews of Tripoli have fled to Malta and 600 are to leave on Monday.

The 1887 and 1888 naval and military contingents have been summoned to muster at Naples on September 26 to embark for Tripoli. Twenty steamers have been chartered to carry the troops.

NAPLES, Sept. 23. The base of operations has been transferred to Syracuse, 315 miles distant from Port Tripoli and 430 miles from Benghasi. The battleships Roma, Napoli Francesco Ferraio and Varose have anchored at Syracuse. The battleships Regina Elena, Amalfi, Bennedetto, Brin and Ammiraglia di Saint Bon will sail from Spezzia for Tripoli on Sunday.

SPEZZIA, Sept. 23. The arsenal here is despatching war material to Naples, the centre of the mobilization of the Italian troops.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Sept. 23. In official circles the Italian mobilization is considered a bluff. Tripoli and Benghesi, the chief towns of Tripoli, are calm.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.-Foreigners are leaving Tripoli apparently because of apprehension of trouble.

James C. Laing. American Consul at Malta, has advised the State Department that fifty-three Italians and Jews passed through Malta last night from Tripoli and more are reported as preparing to leave the country.

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